

WEST VIRGINIA ALTERNATIVE FUEL VEHICLE INCENTIVES AND LAWS



West Virginia is the proud home of the West Virginia Clean Cities Coalition.

Overview

The State of West Virginia does not have any incentives for private sector alternative fuel vehicles (AFVs). The West Virginia Development Office Energy Efficiency Program has an alternative fuels grant program that provides local governments, school boards, and transit authorities up to \$10,000 to convert their fleets to alternate fuels. Several of the West Virginia utility companies will provide assistance with natural gas vehicle (NGV) conversions, and Virginia Power offers a special rate for recharging electric vehicles (EVs).

Highlights

\$ Up to \$10,000 for local governments, school boards, and transit authorities to convert fleets to alternative fuels -- requires 50% in local matching funds

State Incentives

\$ The West Virginia Development Office Energy Efficiency Program has in place an alternative fuels grant program to assist local governments to convert their fleets to alternate fuels. Each governmental entity may receive up to \$10,000 to convert fleet vehicles to compressed natural gas (CNG) or electricity, install CNG or methanol refueling equipment or electrical recharging system, or to pay for incremental costs associated with the purchase of AFVs. Grants must show at least a 50% match. The local match must be in cash or donation. Donations must be directly related to the vehicle conversions (i.e., donated fuel tanks and/or conversion kits).

Grant monies are provided for approved projects on a reimbursement basis only. Eligible applicants are limited to county governments, incorporated municipalities, transit authorities, and school boards. For a copy of the application or for additional program information, contact Judith Dyer or Jeff Herholdt of the Energy Efficiency Program, at (304) 558-4010.

Utility/Private Incentives

West Virginia Power - Gas Service loans vehicle conversion components to fleets. It also has fast-fill credit cards available. For more information, contact Mark Lokant at (304) 465-6004.

Hope Gas offers technical assistance and a limited number of on-board storage tanks to help customers offset the up-front conversion costs for NGVs. Contact Rory Williams at (304) 623-8926 for additional information.

Virginia Power will provide technical support and managerial staff to support a customer beginning an EV fleet. Virginia Power offers support for charging infrastructure, and rate options for electricity used to charge EVs. Contact Charles Kramer at (703) 359-3303 for more information.

Washington Gas provides a number of incentives to encourage the use of NGVs, including joint efforts with Federal, state and local governments as well as commercial fleets to build CNG fueling stations. In addition, the utility offers a customer service program which provides technical expertise and driver and technician training. For additional information, contact Steve Clausman at (703) 750-5957.

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Laws & Regulations

Senate Bill (SB) 508 (1993) requires county and municipal governments to convert fleets to alternative fuels: 20% of new purchases must be AFVs in fiscal year 1995, rising to 30% in 1996, 50% in 1997, and 75% in 1998. SB 509 extends this mandate to state government vehicles.

SB 2 (1991) requires the Public Service Commission to develop alternative fuel technology demonstration programs. The law also deregulated the sale of natural gas as a vehicle fuel.

A 1991 Executive Order established an NGV test program, including fueling stations.

Incentives or subsidies are disallowed by law from being established for the production of alternative fuels.

The Office of Commuting and Industrial Development must study the development and further promotion of coal-based liquids used to produce synthetic motor fuels.

Points of Contact

West Virginia Clean Cities Coordinator

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West Virginia Development Office

West Virginia Development Office

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West Virginia Power - Gas Service

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Hope Gas

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Virginia Power

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Metropolitan Planning Organizations

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KYOVA Interstate Planning Commission

Jim Roveche (304) 523-7434

Wood-Washington-Wirt Interstate Planning Commission

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West Virginia State Transportation Contact

Department of Transportation
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West Virginia State Energy Office

West Virginia Development Office
Energy Efficiency Program
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U.S. Department of Energy

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U.S. Department of Transportation Contacts

Federal Highway Administration

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Federal Transit Administration

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